census UPDATE

www.abs.gov.au/census

JUNE 2007 ISSUE 42

2006 CENSUS LAUNCH EDITION

FIRST RESULTS ARE OUT!

Australian Bureau of Statistics

census 2006

2006 CENSUS DATA OUT NOW VISIT www.abs.gov.au

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census UPDATE

Census Update is a regular free newsletter from Corporate Communications at the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Postal address
Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616

Phone
1300 135 070
Fax
02 6252 8002

EDITORIAL TEAM
Kris Leggo
Neil Tackage
David Fisher

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Sally Hall
Sue Cox

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AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES

THE RELEASE OF 2006 CENSUS DATA!

From the Australian Statistician

On 27 June, 2007, first release data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing became available to all Australians via the ABS website. This release includes a vast amount of important information about our nation, and there is much more to come over the next 12 months.

This is what the Census is all about; putting vital information into the hands of users right across Australia. It helps us to see how our nation is changing. It provides statistical information to assist decision making for all aspects of society, including all levels of government, from the national right down to local and the community.

Starting with this first data release, all the data from our national Census will be available free of charge on our website at www.abs.gov.au/census. I strongly recommend a visit to our site to see how easy it is to access the Census data using our new MapStats and QuickStats online facilities.

Good decisions are based on good information, and the Census is a very powerful source of information for governments, businesses, academics, researchers, students, community organisations and individuals.

The Census is a fundamental building block for official statistics in Australia. It is a resource that documents – without revealing personal information – who we are, where we live, and the circumstances that we live in.

It underpins or complements many of our other statistical activities. It supports our democracy through its application in the distribution of electorates across Australia and the allocation of government funding, particularly between the Commonwealth and the States.

The immense value of the rich flow of information Australia enjoys from the Census is visible all around us. It's likely our local shopping centres, transport services, schools, hospitals and seniors centres were carefully planned using Census data to ensure they were well located.

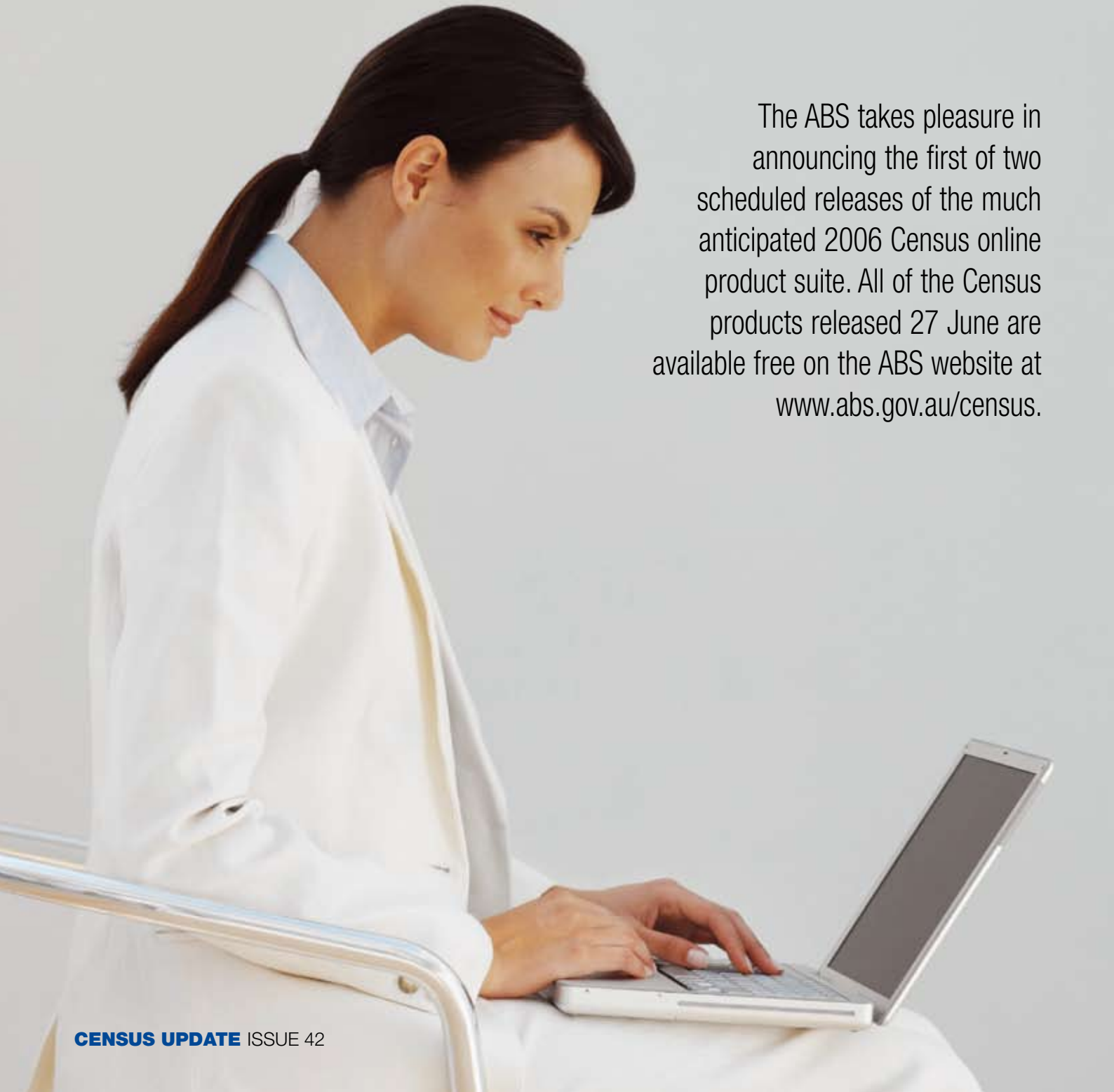
This first release of 2006 Census results also gives me the opportunity to thank the people of Australia for their ready participation and cooperation in another successful Census. Whilst completing the Census form is a legal obligation, in practice the Census is so successful because Australians choose to participate voluntarily. And that participation goes to the heart of the trust and confidence the community places in our national statistical agency, a trust we at the ABS value enormously.

My thanks also go to the users of Census data, who once again have assisted us in designing the products and services that help put that data to work for the benefit of our society and our economy.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician
June 2007

THE *first* RESULTS ARE OUT!

FIRST RELEASE
2006 CENSUS DATA
IS **OUT NOW**



The ABS takes pleasure in announcing the first of two scheduled releases of the much anticipated 2006 Census online product suite. All of the Census products released 27 June are available free on the ABS website at www.abs.gov.au/census.

The first results are out! You can now access the first release 2006 Census data free online at **www.abs.gov.au/census**. For the 2006 Census the ABS is offering a new and improved online product range, offering you greater flexibility in obtaining the data to meet your statistical needs. You are able to view the information you want as either tables, thematic maps, or graphs. Start accessing 2006 Census data via the following online options:

QuickStats: 1st Release

QuickStats is a summary of the many key Census statistics relating to people, families and their dwellings and also contains a short descriptive commentary of the results. QuickStats provides the top five statistics for most Census topics within a selected area.

QuickStats provides you with the key data on basic Census topics such as age, country of birth, main language spoken at home, religious affiliations and marital status.

QuickStats provides data from the smallest geographic area, a Collection District, up to the largest geographic area - all of Australia, and is available in HTML format.

Available now.

MapStats: 1st Release

MapStats (formerly 'QuickMaps') gives you easy access to 2006 Census data and lets you create detailed thematic maps easily and quickly. MapStats contain identifiers such as main roads, rivers, airports and area labels to assist you in recognising your selected areas.

Maps will be available for larger geographic areas and will depict selected population, ethnicity, family, income and dwelling characteristics.

MapStats is free on the web. The maps you generate can be exported in either Adobe Acrobat (PDF) or PNG (Portable Network Graphics) formats.

Available now.

Census Tables: 1st Release

Census Tables is for people interested in data on a particular Census topic for an area. Most topics covered on the Census form are available, including information on population, ethnicity, Indigenous persons, families and households.

Census Tables is designed to assist you in researching, planning and analysing geographic areas, enabling comparisons to be made between different areas on a number of social, economic and demographic variables.

All you need to do is select a geographic area and a topic from the list, then select the table you want to create.

Census Tables are free on the web and available in Excel format.

Available now.

Discover your Community

QUICKSTATS OF A NATION

Here's just a sample of the information that is available free online. Want to know more about how your community compares with the rest of Australia, or how we've changed since 2001? Discover your Census online at **www.abs.gov.au/census**

AUSTRALIA

22.2% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age increased from 35 to 37 since 2001
- income was $466

11% increase in those reporting as Indigenous since 2001

65% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

Average household size 2.6

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

27.1% BORN overseas

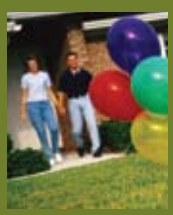
MEDIAN
- age 36
- individual income $500 per week

65% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

VICTORIA

23.8% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 37
- individual income $456 per week



69% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

NEW SOUTH WALES

23.8% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 37
- individual income $461 per week

63% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

QUEENSLAND

17.9% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 36
- individual income $476 per week

62% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

NORTHERN TERRITORY

13.8% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 31
- individual income $549 per week

44% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

20.3% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 39
- individual income $433 per week

67% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

TASMANIA

10.6% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 39
- individual income $398 per week

69% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

21.7% BORN overseas

MEDIAN
- age 34
- individual income $722 per week

66% of dwellings are either fully owned or being purchased

2006 Census information released on Place of Usual Residence basis

CENSUS COUNTS GO HOME!

Place of Usual Residence is now the primary basis for releasing data from the 2006 Census. Place of Usual Residence is where a person usually lives rather than the place they were counted (Place of Enumeration) on Census night 8 August 2006.

This is a significant change from previous Censuses as Place of Enumeration was formerly the primary basis for releasing Census data. This change was made after extensive consultation with our Census clients who overwhelmingly preferred Census information to be released on a Place Of Usual Residence Basis.

Place of Enumeration is the location where someone was counted on Census night. Although the Census is timed to capture as typical a situation as possible, holiday areas such as the Gold Coast and the snowfields may show a large enumeration count compared to the usual residence count.

Will this change make a difference to Time Series formats?

Two Time Series Profiles will be available for the 2006 Census; one based on Usual Residence, the other based on Place of Enumeration.

- **Usual Residence:** Time Series Profiles will be available for the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. Time Series Profiles will also be available for the 1996 Census in large geographies – Statistical Divisions and above.
- **Place of Enumeration:** Time Series Profiles will be available for the 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses in large geographies – Statistical Local Areas (SLA) and above.

Did you know

9% of Australians completed their 2006 Census forms online.

WANT MORE?

WHAT'S STILL TO COME... 2006 CENSUS PRODUCTS

The Census data and products released on 27 June form part of a comprehensive range the ABS has developed to meet your information needs.

Census data is released in two stages. The variables released in the first stage are the tick box questions from the Census form. Second release data consists of the variables that required a handwritten response and so require more complex processing. Second release data builds on the already extensive range of Census information currently available.

Over the coming months additional data will progressively become available and will include the following.

Community Profile Series

Profiles
Free Online

The Community Profile Series provides a comprehensive statistical picture of an area. The series allows you to investigate a diverse range of information in Excel format, covering most topics on the Census form. The Profiles are excellent tools for researching, planning and analysing small and large geographic areas, enabling comparisons to be made between different areas on a number of social, economic and demographic variables.

There are six separate profiles in the series:

Basic Community Profile: Is the primary profile consisting of 45 tables of key Census characteristics of persons, families and dwellings based on place of usual residence (where Census respondents usually live).

Place of Enumeration Profile: 42 tables containing key Census characteristics based on where the Census respondent was counted on Census Night.

Indigenous Profile: 34 tables based on place of usual residence containing

key Census characteristics of Indigenous persons, households and some comparisons with the non-Indigenous population.

Time Series Profile: 25 tables containing key Census characteristics of persons, families and dwellings comparing data from the 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses based on place of enumeration.

Expanded Community Profile: The most comprehensive profile in the series with 42 tables based on place of usual residence. Tables include: Basic Community Profiles; relationships within a family; living costs and dwelling structures.

Working Population Profile: 22 tables of key Census characteristics of working population data based on Place of Work.

Available free online at **www.abs.gov.au/census.**

CDATA Online

Providing the flexibility to empower your decisions

CDATA Online is the most comprehensive free online product from the 2006 Census range. CDATA Online combines extensive information on Australian society with dynamic mapping software, providing you with an essential tool for planning and researching more effectively. CDATA Online also lets you view the Census data you require in a way that best suits your needs, through tables, graphs and thematic maps.

Available free online at **www.abs.gov.au/census.**

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 2006

The best way to investigate the socio-economic well-being of Australian communities is to use the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA 2006). The ABS has combined multiple Census topics such as; income, educational attainment and occupation to develop indexes that allow for the ranking of areas, providing a method for determining the level of social and economic well-being of a region.

Available free online at **www.abs.gov.au/census.**

TableBuilder

TableBuilder is an exciting new product that, for the first time in ABS history, will give you remote access to the complete Census Unit Record File. TableBuilder is designed for people experienced in using Census data and will enable you to extract and manipulate an unlimited number of Census tables. With TableBuilder you can create tables, graphs and thematic maps of Census data.

TableBuilder is a priced product.

Census Datapacks

Census Datapacks is a CD-ROM product containing all the 2006 Census Community Profile Series data and digital boundaries. This product is a practical solution if you require only the Census data and digital boundaries to import into your existing database or analysis system.

Census Datapacks is a priced product.

Census Sample File

The 2006 Census Sample File (CSF) is a comprehensive Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) of Census variables, containing a small random sample of private households and associated persons, and a small random sample of persons in non-private dwellings.

Census Sample File is a priced product.

Hardcopy Publications

The Social Atlas Series: Explore Your City

The Social Atlas Series contains informative maps and enlightening commentary highlighting the key social characteristics of our capital cities and selected regional centres in each state.

Social Atlases are a priced product.

Picture of the Nation: The Statistician's Report on the 2006 Census

The Statistician's Report, last published in 1961, will be reintroduced for the 2006 Census.

The publication provides a comprehensive overview of the 2006 Census, summarising a large volume of Census data and providing extensive written analysis.

The Statistician's Report is a priced product.

2006 Census Release Timetable*

QuickStats
First Release: 27 June 2007
Second Release: October 2007

MapStats (previously QuickMaps)
First Release: 27 June 2007
Second Release: October 2007

Census Tables
First Release: 27 June 2007
Includes Time Series tables for Place of Usual Residence
Second Release: October 2007

Community Profiles

- **Basic**
  First Release: August 2007
  Second Release: October 2007
- **Indigenous**
  First Release: August 2007
  Second Release: October 2007
- **Place of Enumeration**
  First Release: August 2007
  Second Release: November 2007
- **Expanded**
  First Release: August 2007
  Second Release: November 2007
- **Time Series**
  First Release: August 2007
  Second Release: November 2007
- **Working Population**
  Expected December 2007

Census Datapacks
First Release: from August 2007
Second Release: from October 2007

CDATA Online
First Release: TBA
Second Release: TBA

SEIFA 2006
March 2008

TableBuilder
TBA

Census Sample File
March 2008

Social Atlas Series
Early 2008

Picture of the Nation: The Statistician's Report
May 2008

The Census Dictionary
May 2006

Census Fact Sheets
Released progressively

Digital Boundaries
First Release: July 2007
Second Release: September 2007

** accurate at the time of printing*

More information required? Use Census Information Consultancy

If the information you require does not appear to be available in the standard product range, please contact an ABS Information Consultant. They can advise you on customised 2006 Census data, tailored to suit your specific needs. Customised Census tables are a priced service and prices will vary depending on the complexity and size of the data tables requested. Call 1300 135 070 or email client.services@abs.gov.au to receive a tailored information solution.

ABS Offices in your State/Territory

Central Office (Canberra)

ABS House
45 Benjamin Way
Belconnen ACT 2617

Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616

New South Wales

5th Floor
St Andrews House
Sydney Square
Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 796
Sydney NSW 2001

Victoria

5th Floor
Commercial Union Tower
485 LaTrobe Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

GPO Box 2796Y
Melbourne VIC 3001

Queensland

Level 3
639 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley
QLD 4006

GPO Box 9817
Brisbane QLD 4001

South Australia

9th Floor
ANZ House
11 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 2272
Adelaide SA 5001

Western Australia

Level 15
Exchange Plaza
Sherwood Court
Perth WA 6001

GPO Box K881
Perth WA 6842

Tasmania

200 Collins Street
Hobart TAS 7000

GPO Box 66A
Hobart TAS 7001

Northern Territory

7th Floor
AANT House
81 Smith Street
Darwin NT 0800

GPO BOX 3796
Darwin NT 0801

ACT

Level 5
33-35 Ainslie Avenue
Canberra City,
ACT 2601

Locked Bag 10
Belconnen ACT 2616

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WEB

Visit **www.abs.gov.au** and follow the Census link to check out new and future Census developments as they happen.

ABS STATISTICS ARE FREE ONLINE

PHONE

Call the National Information and Referral Service on **1300 135 070**.

census.users@abs.gov.au

With the first release of 2006 Census data launched today, the best way to keep informed of the second release of data along with the latest Census events is through **census.users@abs.gov.au**.

This free email notification service ensures you are kept up to date with the latest Census developments as they happen. Links within the emails will take you to relevant parts of the ABS website for information on current issues and Census data.

HOW TO JOIN

Simply send an email to census.users@abs.gov.au and type 'add to census email' in the subject field. Your details will automatically be loaded to the alert system.

If at any time you wish to stop receiving these informative updates, send an email to the above address and type 'remove from census email' in the subject field.

Take advantage of this fast information service and receive the latest Census news, including the Census Update newsletter, direct to your desk top.

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